

Occupancy Standards

The Service Manager's local rule for occupancy standards is to continue to use the former Provincial Occupancy Standards, which are as follows:

The **largest unit** a household is eligible for is a unit that has:

- One bedroom for any two members of the household who are spouses of each other.
- One bedroom for each additional member of the household.
- Additional bedroom(s) due to medical conditions, disability, to accommodate a child in joint custody, or under visiting rights requirements. You will be required to provide documentation to support such a request.

You may request an additional bedroom(s) under local occupancy standards in the following specific cases:

1. If one of the spouses or same-sex partners requires a separate room because of a disability or medical condition. (Note: This will not normally include snoring and sleep apnea, frequent night-time waking or insomnia, or temporary medical conditions that make sharing a bedroom inconvenient).
2. If the bedroom is needed to store equipment required because of a member's disability or medical condition.
3. If the bedroom is required to accommodate an individual who is not a member of the household and who provides a member of the household with support services that are required because of the member's disability or medical condition.
4. An additional bedroom if a member of the household is pregnant.
5. An additional bedroom under the following specific circumstances:
 - a. If a member has joint custody over a child who is not a member of the household, and
 - b. The member is required to provide accommodation for the child, and
 - c. The bedroom is required to accommodate the child.
6. An additional bedroom under the following specific circumstances:
 - a. If a member has visiting rights with respect to a child who is not a member of the household, and
 - b. It is a condition of the visiting rights that the member provide adequate accommodation for the child when the child stays overnight with the member, and
 - c. The child will stay overnight with the member frequently, and
 - d. The bedroom is required to accommodate the child.

7. To accommodate a foster child.
8. An additional bedroom if the Service Manager is satisfied that extenuating circumstances exist.

The **smallest unit** a household is eligible for is a unit that has:

- One bedroom for every two members.
- An additional bedroom if there is an odd number of members of the household.
- If the household consists of one individual or two individuals who are spouses or same-sex partners, the smallest unit the household is eligible for is a bachelor unit. (**Note:** Parry Sound's social housing portfolio does not have any bachelor units. The smallest unit is a one-bedroom).

Individuals living away from the household:

In determining the appropriate size unit for RGI households, a child of a member of the household is considered a member of the household if the child:

- a. Is in attendance at a recognized educational institution and, while in attendance, does not live with the household;
 - b. Lives with the household while not attending that educational institution; and
 - c. Is dependent, in whole or in part, on the household for financial support.
- Permanent wards of the Children's Aid Society (CAS) or the Crown are not considered part of the household.
 - A child who normally lives with the household but is in the temporary care of the CAS continues to be part of the household for the purposes of determining occupancy standards, provided the length of stay with CAS is short-term and there is a plan for the child's return to the household.
 - Occupancy standards are applied at the time of your initial application for RGI assistance, during periodic reviews of the occupancy of RGI tenants, or upon a request for additional bedroom(s).
 - Eligibility for additional bedroom(s) will be determined only if the household requests and provides supporting documents.
 - A request for an additional bedroom(s) may be made in the initial RGI application or it can be made after being housed in an RGI unit.